

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1857.

People in such a condition as to need the of the charitably minded often use this familiar expression, "The smallest favors thankfully received." In these words, then, done into Hawaiian, the native girls might rejoin to the Report of the Association of Ministers, of which a copy appeared last week. If these little maids are of the right-thinking kind it ought to gratify them to learn that any voice, however tremulous, has been raised in their behalf. But perhaps they may doubt its sincerity; the strangeness of the sound might well awake their suspicions. It would not be surprising if they were in their childishness to find the few with the many, the future with the past. Such of them as have been received into families in the way suggested in the Report are a very small proportion to their whole number, and however thankful those may be for the kindness bestowed upon them, it need not be a matter of wonder if the sombre misgivings of the great class they belong to have been only a little alleviated by this small infusion of the *coulour de rose*. A girl might be excused if her first idea of being absorbed in or bound by indenture to a foreign household was connected with the care of a baby and the traction of a perambulator. Should the young ladies of foreign extraction make any response to the call—and we very sincerely trust they may—they must not be surprised if their advances are in the first instance received with something of indifference. They must not expect that the brunettes will rush tumultuously into the arms of the blondes, calling them their benefactresses and their deliverers. We suspect their proposals would more probably be met with a guarded "Aie aie aie." We will make so bold as to say that on the foreign side there is something to learn, and on the native side something to forget, before any thing like *empressment* can be looked for. As the tide of the Father of Waters continues for many a mile after it is emptied into the Gulf of Mexico to maintain the characteristics of its original source, spurning, as it were, in the pride of its birth to mingle with the inferior waters, so does the non-indigenous female element of our community remain distinct. Any one may trace it, but it would puzzle an experienced psychological analyzer to distinguish what of its exotic properties it has imparted to the sex in general. Still, we are proud to say, there have existed and still exist many instances in which humanity and woman's solicitude for woman have risen superior to habit and prejudice—cases in which virtue has been conscious of strength enough in herself to repulse our belief that among us there are persons of the Shadrach-Meshaeh-and-Abednego stamp, though not of their sex, who will not worship the image which Fashion has set up—women who have voluntarily descended into what their tender associates might be pleased to call a "burning very furnace" (meaning the society of native females,) and upon whom when they emerged the smell of fire had not passed.

But this is a very delicate subject. We are afraid of making a slip and of doing more harm than good by our advocacy. Like a barrister upon a strange circuit, we do not know the temper of the court or the politics of the jury. Earnestness might be pooh-poohed, and a less forensic style called levity. Yet surely the matter in hand should of itself inspire an interest. Our clients' story is one to be set forth in the shape of a plain unvarnished tale. They only pray that their cousins may be called upon to show cause why they have withheld from them what they claim at their hands. With all the civilization of which those ladies are seized, with all the hereditary virtue that has descended to them, with all their self-acquired property in the art of making homes happy, can they do nothing for their poor relations? Perhaps indeed there may be some ugly flaw in the history of these latter; some of the family may have misbehaved themselves; the representatives of this generation may be of that class that would run off with their fathers' coachmen; but they are womanish for all that, soft-hearted, ready to laugh or to cry, to assume philosophy or crinoline according to the fashion of the day, chameleon like to take

their hue from surrounding objects, and in a word—to be the creatures of education. But the education they need is not simply that which "plays round the head but comes not near the heart." Their instructresses have more to do than to see that they commit to memory so many pages every morning and read so many chapters every evening. They want examples to be set them rather than tasks, and infinitesimal doses of practice hourly repeated instead of sabbatical boluses of doctrine. Their eyes are as quick as their ears and admit as many impressions; and to say that they are inquisitive is merely to reaffirm their sex.

In some countries there is a class of females who are always on the look out for an object upon which to exhaust their benevolence and practice their patience. A peculiarly interesting case of distress or a child more than usually given to bad habits, (particularly if her father be a drunkard,) will almost produce the same effect upon them as a sixpence thrown among a group of boys, that is to say a scramble. What passed for sweet tempers have been ruffled on that score, to our own knowledge; no lady likes another lady to enjoy a more deplorable case than her own. Of course these little proteges do not always turn out so well as could be wished, and indeed they do want a little looking after when a marching regiment is quartered in the neighborhood. But there are some natures with whom to assist and to improve is an instinct. A parent bird when one ungrateful brood has flown away makes preparation for another; and the rays of such women's humanity are always gathered to a focus. They must care for something beyond themselves. If in describing this love for their species and yearning towards the unfortunate of their sex we have in any thing deviated from facts, we must excuse ourselves by saying that we are alluding to things we saw a long time ago. On these islands we have observed abundant need for such good offices, but where the opportunities are too frequent the gratification of the impulse may perhaps cease to be a luxury. Or is the return too small for the labor expended? We should like a reply upon that point from some one who has fairly tried the experiment. Let any one whose heart has ever prompted her to cultivate what was good and check what was bad in a young native girl, to quicken her intellect and improve her tastes, give us an answer. Those whose benevolence has followed that direction will not renounce the cause they undertook because their success was not absolute, and those who never made an attempt of the kind can have no failure to bemoan.

Died.

On Thursday, the 2d instant, of congestion of the lungs, at her residence in Honolulu, L. Konia, relict of the late High Chief Paki, in the 50th year of her age. The deceased was a chiefess of very high rank; her father was Kaoleioku, whose father Kalaniopuua was uncle to Kamehameha I. The loss of a lady of such high descent has created a feeling of more than usual grief amongst the circle of Chiefs and the native population generally, she having been the last representative of the chiefesses of her generation. By the community at large she was esteemed for her firmness and urbanity, and for a natural dignity that always commanded respect. The funeral it is expected will take place in ten or twelve days.

On Thursday of last week Mons. Perrin, the Commissioner of H. I. M., had the honor of entertaining at dinner His Majesty the King and a select party of gentlemen, on the occasion of Lieutenant Pontier's being created a knight of the Legion of Honor.

On Tuesday evening last, Captain Pichon and the officers of H. I. M.'s corvette *Eurydice* gave a ball on board the vessel named, which proved a very brilliant affair. The taste with which the ship was ornamented under the immense canopy of flags that formed the *salle a danser*, was matter of general remark. The French not only know how to use flowers and foliage in decoration, but have a special turn for discovering where they grow. At 12 o'clock, a beautiful supper called attention from the dance, and it was late before the company departed. This is the first ball that has taken place for some time, and was the more enjoyed on that account.

Agricultural Notice.—Importation of Fruit Trees.

At a late meeting of the Board of Managers of the R. H. A. Society, it was resolved to import next winter from California a large assortment of improved varieties of fruit trees and grape vines. As the system heretofore adopted of selling the imported plants at auction on arrival, does not meet the desirable object of furnishing them to members living on other islands, it is now proposed to receive orders from the different islands for fruit trees and grape vines, from this date until the 15th of September next. A general order will go to the coast in the latter part of September, so that the plants will arrive here about December or January, at the proper time for setting them. Each individual order will in California be made up in a separate package, so that on its arrival here it may be immediately despatched to the place of its destination, without being opened in Honolulu.

The trees will only be of the improved kinds, budded or grafted, and the grape vines well rooted. The price of fruit trees in California will probably range from 50 cents to 75 cents each. We recommend as adapted to nearly all localities, the peach, almond, apricot, nectarine and grape, of which latter there are about thirty varieties in the California nurseries. For higher elevations, particularly on Hawaii and East Maui where they should be placed in well sheltered localities, best in gulches, the apple, pear, cherry, plum, chestnut and walnut.

The plants thus ordered will be ordered at cost and charges. Mr. George Williams the Treasurer of the Society, will furnish certificates of membership to such as desire them, and payment of the annual fee of five dollars.

The society are now frequently receiving valuable seeds, bulbs &c. from other societies in different parts of the world, which will be furnished gratis to members by the undersigned, except such as have been ordered from dealers which will be supplied at cost, on application to the undersigned.

By order of the Board,
WM. HILLEBRAND.
Corresponding Secretary R. H. A. S.

Honolulu Engine Co. No. 1.

At a meeting of the above company, held at their room on Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Foreman, P. MCGINNIS.
Asst. do., J. OAT.
Secretary, L. F. BEATTY.
Treasurer, C. A. POOR.

The following names were added to the Honorary Roll of the company: W. F. Allen, Samuel James.

This company we understand has never been in so prosperous a condition since its organization as at present; according to the Secretary's report, it has numbered as high as 54, but by expulsions and resignations it has been reduced to 25 active members, who by their attention to the interests of the company and valuable services at fires, have rendered themselves worthy of the support of the community. We understand that they are making special efforts to increase their number of active members. Success attend them.

The Pacific Commercial Advertiser.

No. 1, Vol. 2, of our contemporary made its appearance last Thursday, considerably enlarged in size, two columns having been added to each of its four pages. The *Advertiser* is extremely well "got up" in a mechanical point of view, and is a credit to its enterprising proprietor and an honor to the craft typographical of this part of the world, while, at the same time, opinions may differ as to the real need of so large a sheet in this community, which must of necessity be in a great measure a reprint of the foreign newspaper matter which in these days of Expresses and Sullivans is so common. The rage for large skirts, air tubes and crinoline, however, is spreading westward. The *Advertiser* is so young as yet, although in its second year, that it may perhaps still be termed an experiment, and in reviewing the past history of journalism in Honolulu, it might advantageously remember the homely old bit of advice, "not to halloo until well out of the woods."

The Fourth of July.

To-day is the 81st anniversary of American Independence, and as in former years, will be observed as a general holiday by all classes in and about Honolulu. "Young America" was wide awake at 12 o'clock last night and ushered in the first hours of the morning by firing a piece of cannon until day-light, beginning in the valley and blazing away all down the road into town. A gay display of bunting decorates the city, and conspicuous among all, Mr. Cutrell of the Merchant's Exchange, has fairly "wrapped himself in the American Flag," with the evident intention of having a "good time" on one day in the year. We hear of luau's in the country, and at the Bethel at 3 P. M. the Sunday School children have a picnic.

The Mails.

The *Yankee* may be considered as fairly due to-day. She sailed hence on the 21st of May, and has consequently been absent 43 days. Allowing her 18 days passage up, 10 days stay there and 15 days for the passage down, we may reasonably look for the mail of May 20th at any moment. The *Julius Pringle* is up for San Francisco next Thursday. The *Emma* for Tahiti via Kauai on Monday.

A Model Expressman.

Mr. J. W. Sullivan of San Francisco is certainly quite up with the requirements of the age in the transmission of news. The people of Honolulu have frequently before been laid under obligations to him for papers in advance of the mail, but his last feat in this line calls for more than an ordinary acknowledgment. There being no vessel at San Francisco up for this place, Mr. Sullivan sent copious files of U. S. and European papers to Oregon to be thence forwarded here per the *Advance*, which vessel having made the passage in 14 days has put us in possession of intelligence considerably in advance of the regular mail per *Yankee*. Such a man as Sullivan must succeed.

Private School.

A new school has been opened in the old Royal School premises by Mr. Samuel Derby, for instruction in the common branches of English education. The present would seem to be a favorable moment for the establishment of a school of the kind now undertaken, and we feel confident in recommending Mr. Derby, as well fitted by his training under some of the best masters of New England, to give entire satisfaction to those who may entrust their children to his care.

Our thanks are due to Capt. Collins of the Brig *Advance*, for files of papers of the latest dates. Also to J. W. Sullivan, of San Francisco, for similar favors.

PICNIC. The superintendents, teachers and scholars of the Fort Street and the Methodist Churches are invited to join the Bethel Sabbath School in a picnic this day. Parents and children desirous of furnishing the tables, are requested to forward their contributions at or before 3 o'clock, P. M. PER ORDER.

We are requested to state that on account of the limited time occupied in making the arrangements, no other invitation will be given out.

The American Squadron in the Chinese Waters.—List of Vessels to be Sent Out.

The steam frigates *Minnesota* and *Mississippi*, and the sloop-of-war *Germantown*, are now fitting out with all despatch to reinforce our squadron in the Chinese seas, which is at present much too small to protect the extended commerce of the United States now employed in the waters of China.

Every day in the year thousands of tons of American shipping, with cargoes valued by the million, are floating in the five opened ports of China—Canton, Whampoa, Amoy, Foo-chow-foo and Shanghai—and we have but three vessels, mounting only fifty-five guns, to protect this vast amount of property.

The following vessels of war bearing the flag of the United States, are now on the coast of China:

Steam frigate <i>San Jacinto</i> , (flagship)	13 Guns.
Sloop-of-war <i>Portsmouth</i> ,	22 do.
Sloop-of-war <i>Levant</i> ,	20 do.

Total guns, 55

The following vessels are now fitting out, and will be ready in a short time to take their departure to reinforce the East India fleet:

Steam frigate <i>Minnesota</i> ,	40 Guns.
Steam frigate <i>Mississippi</i> ,	10 do.
Sloop-of-war <i>Germantown</i> ,	22 do.

Total guns, 72

When the above vessels arrive out there we shall have a force of one hundred and twenty-seven guns on that station, most of which are of the heaviest calibre; and if their services should be required, the Celestials will find them a weighty argument in our favor.—N. Y. *Herald*.

CHURCH GOING IN THE OLDEN TIME.—We find the following in the history of the town of Salem, Mass. "The boys were ranged on the stairs of the meeting-house, and a man was appointed to keep people from sleeping by means of a short clubbed stick, having at one end a knob and at the other a fox tail, with which he would stroke the women's faces that were asleep and with the other he would knock the unruly boys and men. In the same place—Salem—two men were appointed to mark down the non-attendants, in order to present them to the magistrate, while at the same time, three constables were appointed to keep watch at the door of the meeting-house to prevent any one from going forth till the exercises were finished."

IMMENSE PETRIFICATION.—An immense petrification is exhibiting in Troy. It is nothing more nor less than a horse, its Indian rider, and a huge serpent, transported by the mysterious workings of nature to solid stone! It was found in South America, by a gentleman who was exploring portions of that wild and mountainous country, and was by him secured and brought to the United States. From the place and position in which it was found, it is presumed that the serpent had coiled itself around the horse and rider and crushed them to death, after which, from some unaccountable cause, it too, had died, and being shaded from the heat of the sun and cut off from the action of the atmosphere, the work of petrification took the place of decomposition, and the result is here seen. The serpent is supposed to be 40 feet in length and 3 in circumference.